

D-766
Petersburg
Hurlock vicinity
19th and 20th centuries
Private and public

Petersburg is a small African-American village located southeast of Hurlock and oriented around a triangle intersection of roads and lanes. The corridor for the former Baltimore & Eastern Shore Railroad passes immediately east of the village center and a depot known as Ennalls Station was established there. Defined by an assortment of late nineteenth and early to mid twentieth century houses, mostly of frame construction, the Petersburg is also distinguished by a late nineteenth century church, Zorah M. E. Church (D-332). The church is the oldest dated structure in Petersburg with the original Gothic Revival influenced structure erected in 1898. The houses that define Petersburg are modest sized two-story, two-bay by one-bay dwellings with rear service wings. In contrast to the frame construction of the oldest housing stock, there is one two-story house erected in mass-produced concrete block. Many of the older dwellings are uninhabited since a new generation of single-story ranch style houses were erected during the mid to late twentieth century.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of

Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-766

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Petersburg

other Petersburg Survey District

2. Location

street and number Petersburg Road and Petersburg Backstreet not for publication

city, town Hurlock x vicinity

county Dorchester

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owner)

name Various owners

street and number telephone

city, town state zip code

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber folio

city, town Cambridge tax map tax parcel tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
 Other:

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	24 10 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	24 10 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

Inventory No. D-766

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Petersburg Survey District is a small African-American community located southeast of Hurlock, Dorchester County, Maryland. The village, comprised of approximately two dozen nineteenth and twentieth century frame dwellings, is reached by Petersburg Road, which intersections MD Route 331 approximately a mile west of the community. Petersburg Road and Petersburg Backstreet are principal avenues as well as Jeans Road.

The housing stock of Petersburg is dispersed across a tract of twenty plus acres with small lots improved by a range of approximately two dozen late nineteenth and twentieth century dwellings. One church, Zorah M. E. Church (D-332) stands along Petersburg Road on the east edge of the village. The Zorah M. E. Church is the oldest dated structure, confirmed by a marble datestone inscribed with 1898 and 1923. The housing stock is mostly of frame construction; the older structures are two-story, two-bay or three-bay single-pile dwellings with single or story-and-a-half service wings. Most of the houses are supported on low brick foundations and are sheathed with asbestos shingles or vinyl or aluminum siding. The medium pitched roofs are covered with asphalt shingles for the most part. There is one two-story concrete block dwelling dating to the early twentieth century. Smooth faced blocks were used in its construction rather than traditional framing techniques. A new generation of housing was built between the 1950s and the late twentieth century as fewer individuals or families carried to occupy the older generation dwellings. Medium to small sized ranch houses with low pitched gable roofs are the most common type of replacement house

8. Significance

Inventory No. D-766

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

SIGNIFICANCE

Petersburg is a small African-American village located southeast of Hurlock and oriented around a triangle intersection of roads and lanes. Defined by an assortment of late nineteenth and early to mid twentieth century houses of mostly frame construction, the village is also distinguished by a late nineteenth century church, Zorah M. E. Church (D-332). The church is the oldest dated structure in Petersburg with the original structure erected in 1898. The houses that define Petersburg are modest sized two-story, two-bay by one-bay dwellings with rear service wings. In contrast to the frame construction of the oldest housing stock, there is one two-story house erected in mass-produced concrete block. Many of the older dwellings are uninhabited since a new generation of single-story ranch style dwellings were built during the mid to late twentieth century.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-766

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 20 acres
Acreage of historical setting 20 acres
Quadrangle name Sharptown, MD-DEL

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

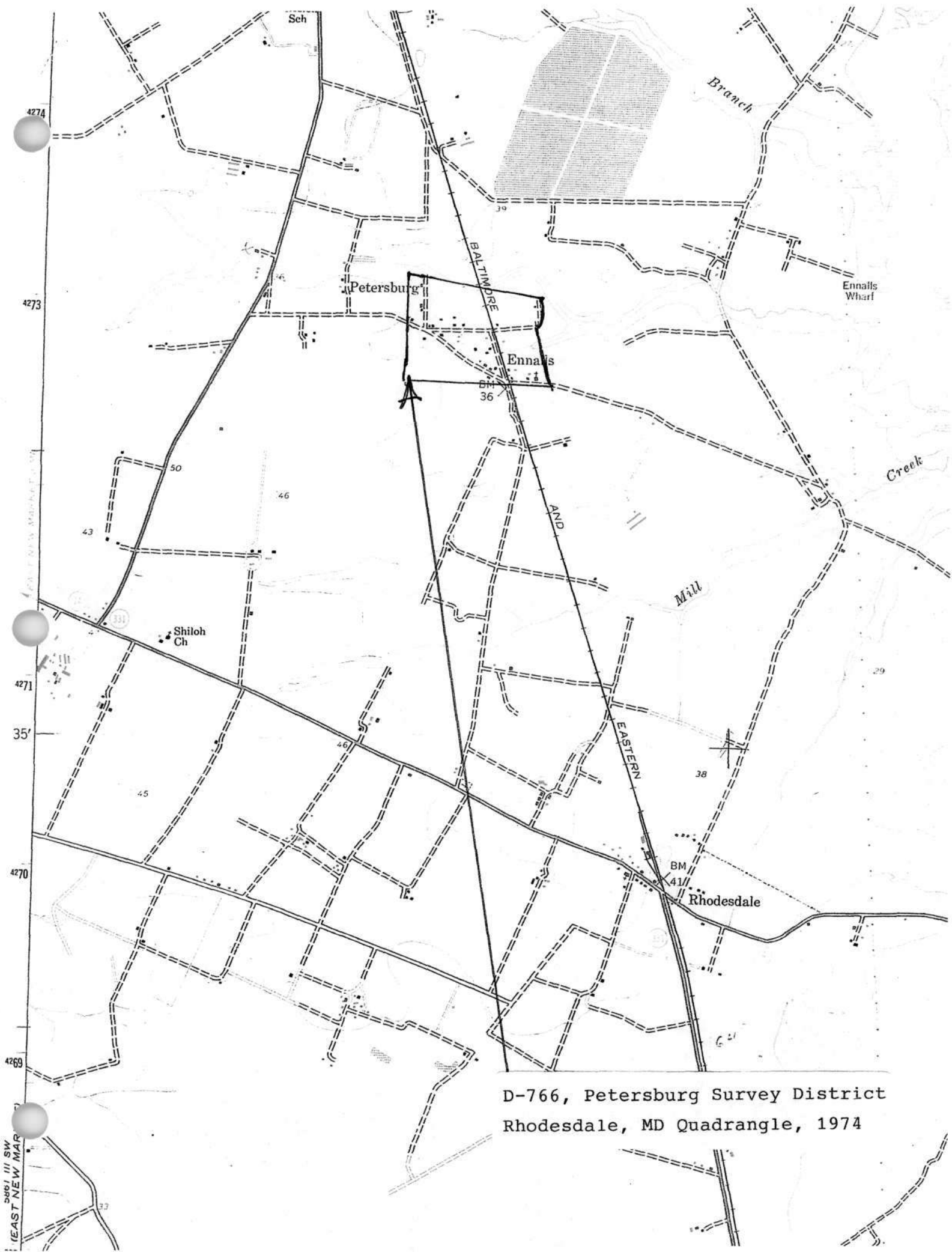
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	7/23/2008
street & number	Cedar Hill, P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



D-766, Petersburg Survey District
Rhodesdale, MD Quadrangle, 1974